



**Division of Water Resources / State Revolving Fund Loan Program**

William R. Snodgrass TN Tower, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Nashville TN 37243  
Phone: (615) 532-0445

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION**

For the Proposed Project of Lincoln County Board of Public Utilities (Lincoln County), Tennessee

Loan Nos. CG5 2017-387 and SRF 2017-388

March 24, 2017

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (Department) State Revolving Fund Loan Program has conducted a review of the above-referenced project in accordance with the Operating Agreement between the Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for implementing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program. The Department has determined that this project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion (CE). Accordingly, the Department is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under the Department's EPA-approved National Environmental Policy Act-like environmental review process.

The project consists of replacing approximately 9,000 manual read water meters with new meters equipped with automatic meter reading (AMR) technology and associated AMR hardware (data collectors, meter interface units, repeaters, and hand-held programmers) and software. The total estimated project cost is \$2,390,000. The Lincoln County Board of Public Utilities (LCBPU) has applied for a CWSRF loan in the amount of \$2,216,450. This project will be funded with two CWSRF loans. The first loan (CW5 2017-387) is for \$1,531,250 with a \$306,250 loan and \$1,225,000 in principal forgiveness that will not have to be repaid by LCBPU. The second loan (SRF 2017-388) is for \$685,200. The remainder of the project cost of \$173,550 will be provided by LCBPU. The figure showing the project area accompanies this CE.

The project is eligible for a CE because undertaking this action:

1. Will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters
2. Will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or load of pollutants
3. Will not provide capacity to serve a population 30 percent greater than the existing population
4. Will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment
5. Will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resources areas
6. Is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy

The determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Department and can be revoked at any time that adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision will be on file with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's State Revolving Fund Loan Program and available for public scrutiny upon request. If you wish to comment or to challenge this CE, send your written comment(s) to:

Mr. Sam R. Gaddipati, Environmental Manager  
Division of Water Resources, State Revolving Fund Loan Program  
William R. Snodgrass TN Tower, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Nashville, TN 37243

or call or e-mail (615) 532-0462 or [sam.gaddipati@tn.gov](mailto:sam.gaddipati@tn.gov).